

# TOWN Reminder

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### Eversource to perform upgrades



Thus far, July's most significant isolated outage affected more than 1,000 SHELd customers in proximity to Alvord Street. Inclement weather caused a tree limb to fall on a primary wire; Fitzgerald explained the nature of the incident.

"We had to take down the whole circuit, which impacted a lot of customers," he said. "It was at 6:30 p.m., and the duration was 57 minutes, but it did take down a lot of customers. That was primarily so that our crews could work in a safe environment."

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## SHELd has busy July

By Dalton Zbierski  
Staff Writer

SOUTH HADLEY – The month of July was eventful for the South Hadley Electric Light Department. General Manager Sean Fitzgerald described a busy several weeks during the July 23 Board of Commissioners Meeting.

"It was a pretty active month for outages," said Fitzgerald. "Mainly, we had two strong storms, which caused significant tree damage throughout town. The entire SHELd line crew worked through the night to re-

store power; in most cases they were able to restore power within an hour or two."

As of the July 23 meeting, the longest outage of the month had lasted approximately six hours; several others ran four or five hours. Fitzgerald complimented his staff for keeping residents updated and informed.

"Our customer service manager and team did a great job keeping our social media page updated with information providing almost real time updates, which was really kind of a great way to communicate. I was watching the interactions

through the storm so great job to the whole team," said Fitzgerald.

Continuing a trend that was prevalent last month, SHELd observed several animal-related outages in July; most were attributed to squirrels. Fitzgerald went on to detail an encounter with a more inflated threat.

"There was an additional outage caused by Mylar balloons, which got caught on a pole top on Morgan St. I'll just remind customers to please try to deflate Mylar balloons as much as possible because they can easily cause outages and, in this instance, they did," he said.

## Mower subject of debate at Granby ATM



Turley Publications staff photos by Dalton Zbierski

Town officials sat at the front of the audience during the July 25 Annual Town Meeting, which was held outside under a massive tent.

By Dalton Zbierski  
Staff Writer

GRANBY – An old tradition took on new form on July 25, as Granby's 2020 Annual Town Meeting occurred outside in front of Granby Junior/Senior High School.

The 82-minute affair was largely uneventful with the exception of a conversation regarding a lawnmower.

Article 13 called for the town to allot \$115,000 towards the purchase of an air-conditioned mower for the Public Buildings Department. The Finance Committee recommended that the item be postponed indefinitely.

While voters approved the article, it wasn't without discussion from the DPW and the Finance Committee members.

"We'd like to put this off until there is time for a more thorough discussion and study of the issue. The current mower that we have was authorized eight years ago for \$54,000. The new mower that is requested is \$115,000," said John Libera, a



### Voters approve an item during the July 25 Annual Town Meeting held outside of the Granby Junior/Senior High School.

member of the Finance Committee.

Libera noted that inflation only accounts for approximately 12 percent; the equivalent cost of the 2012 purchase is \$60,664. He questioned why a significantly more expensive mower was necessary.

"First of all, it's a 16-foot mower instead of 14-foot mower, which is bigger than most golf course mowers. It has an enclosed cab and is air conditioned. If you design a mower

from a blank sheet, you're probably going to get a Mercedes, and this is what we are getting here for \$115,000," said Libera.

The Finance Committee made it clear that it was not attempting to "kill" the purchase of a new mower, which is needed at Dufresne Park, Brown Ellison Park and the high school athletic fields. Libera summarized the committee's sentiment,

Please see **GRANBY ATM** page 7

## Suspicious seeds sent to South Hadley resident

SOUTH HADLEY – A South Hadley resident has received a packet of seeds from China and contacted the South Hadley Health Department.

"I then contacted the Massachusetts Department of Public Health who immediately followed up," said Sharon Hart, South Hadley Health Director.

On Tuesday, July 28, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) issued a press release regarding people across the country that have received suspicious, unsolicited packages of seed that appear to be coming from China.

"USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is working closely with the Department of Homeland Security's Customs and Border Protection, other federal agencies, and State departments of agriculture to investigate the situation." USDA urged anyone who receives an unsolicited package of seeds to "immediately contact their State plant regulatory official or APHIS State plant health director."

"Please hold onto the seeds and packaging, including the mailing label, until someone from your State department of agriculture or APHIS contacts you with further instructions," according to the press release. "Do not plant seeds from unknown origins." At this time, the USDA stated they "don't have any evidence indicating this is something other than a 'brushing scam' where people receive unsolicited items from a seller who then posts false customer reviews to boost sales."

USDA is currently collecting seed packages from recipients

Please see **SEEDS** page 7



# Local resident receives \$10,000 scholarship

By Dalton Zbierski  
Staff Writer

SOUTH HADLEY – A South Hadley resident was recently selected as the recipient of a Salix Gastrointestinal (GI) Health Scholars Award. Julia Piligian was given the honor, which recognizes outstanding students living with GI disease as they pursue their dreams of high education.

The University of Massachusetts Lowell student was one of 10 young men and women who were selected from a pool of more than 100 applicants.

Salix Pharmaceuticals is one of the planet’s largest specialty pharmaceutical companies that is dedicated preventing

and treating gastrointestinal diseases. Salix President Robert Spurr helped launch the program this year; he elaborated on the award’s meaning and significance.

“At Salix, we understand the complexities of managing GI disease. We created the Salix Gastrointestinal Health Scholars Program to recognize students who are working diligently to achieve their higher educational goals while living with the challenges of a GI disease,” he said.

Spurr made his enthusiasm surrounding the scholarship initiative very clear. He credited the recipients for their courage and dedication to academic success.

“We are inspired by the incredible re-

siliency and determination each of our winners has displayed in pursuit of their education,” said Spurr.

The 2020 honorees were chosen after submitting an essay that detailed their experiences of pursuing an education while living with a gastrointestinal condition.

An independent panel of judges reviewed the submissions, many of which focused on the role played by gastroenterologists and other health professionals.

Piligian received the Undergraduate Scholar Award. Other awards included Graduate Scholarship Awards, Graduate Scholar Awards, the Working Parent’s Scholar Award and the Single Parent’s Scholar Award.

The 10 recipients’ study at institutions spread across the country, ranging geographically from Columbia University in New York down to the University of Alabama and out to Western Washington University in Washington state.

The Salix Gastrointestinal Health

Scholars Program is funded by the Bausch Foundation and offers financial support to students who overpowered GI disease to become academically successful.

The Bausch Foundation, created by Bausch Health Companies Inc., was launched in 2017. The foundation aims to enhance the health of patients all throughout the world by offering them safe access to critical resources such as safe and effective medicines and financially supporting health care education.

Over the past three-plus years, the Bausch Foundation has contributed millions of dollars of financial aid and product donations to global charitable health organizations. With the annual Salix Gastrointestinal (GI) Health Scholars Award now in play, it will continue to do so.

Piligian declined to comment for this story.

Dalton Zbierski is a Staff Writer. He can be reached at [dzbierski@turley.com](mailto:dzbierski@turley.com).

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# Eversource to perform transmission upgrades in late July and August

SOUTH HADLEY – Eversource will be performing transmission upgrade work beginning in late July into early August in South Hadley on Hadley Street, Ferry Street, Alvord Street, Pine Street, Lathrop Street, Newton Street, Purple Heart Drive, Lamb Street, John Lane and Ludlow Road.

This project involves installing new communication and grounding wire, called Optical Ground Wire (OPGW), on certain existing transmission structures in the municipalities of Westfield, Southampton, Easthampton, Holyoke, South Hadley and Chicopee.

The OPGW will improve electric reliability by enabling communication between Eversource’s substations.

Eversource has been before the town’s Conservation Commission and received all necessary permits and have conducted outreach to abutting property owners most impacted. They will be notifying all abutters of their work with the attached letter and flyer before work begins. Over the course of construction, they will continue to conduct outreach with a combination of letters, door hangers, phone calls and e-mails.

As mentioned, Eversource plans to begin work in late July to early August 2020 with project completion scheduled for mid-November 2020. Restoration of disturbed areas may continue into 2021. The hours of construction will be from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Community Outreach representatives go door-to-door for property owners who live near the right of way.

Due to the ongoing health concerns with COVID-19, Eversource will drop off door hanger notices at homes, but will not request in person meetings or to speak face to face with property owners as part of this outreach.

Any residents with questions or concerns can reach out to the Eversource Projects Hotline at 1-800-793-2202 or e-mail them at [ProjectInfor@eversource.com](mailto:ProjectInfor@eversource.com).

Courtesy photo

**Eversource will begin upgrades starting soon on Hadley Street, Ferry Street, Alvord Street, Pine Street, Lathrop Street, Newton Street, Purple Heart Drive, Lamb Street, John Lane and Ludlow Road.**



## Most articles approved by voters at Granby ATM

By Dalton Zbierski  
Staff Writer

GRANBY – Residents voted on 24 separate warrant articles during the Granby Annual Town Meeting, which was held on the morning of July 25. The outdoor meeting was conducted under the cover of a tent constructed in front of Granby Junior/Senior High School.

The town adopted a consent agenda for the first article, allowing voters to approve 12 separate items without discussion or individual motions.

The consent agenda allowed the meeting to proceed at a greater rate of speed, explained Town Moderator Lynn Mercier.

“The purpose of the consent agenda is to save time by dispensing with the reading and voting of individual articles that can be expected to pass overwhelmingly. Instead, we’re going to vote them all together in one vote,” said Mercier.

Mercier welcomed the possibility of debate and questions pertaining to the first article, but none occurred. By passing article one, residents agreed to allow the town to apply, accept and spend grants.

The article’s passing also enabled the town to set compensation rates for the Cemetery Commission, Board of Assessors, Board of Health and Planning Board. Approval was also given for the annual authorization of all the town’s revolving funds listed in the town by-laws and required by state statutes and permitted.

Article two proposed that \$14,000 of free sash be spent on the acquisition of storage containers to store records that are currently held in the old library. At the re-

quest of the Finance Committee, residents voted to indefinitely postpone the motion; Finance Committee Chair, John Libera explained the committee’s recommendation.

“Basically, we feel that this is just throwing money away; moving paper records from one place to another instead of directly approaching the problem of what to do about records,” said Libera. “Paper records are a thing of the past, and we need to change to electronic media wherever and whenever possible. We have paper records in multiple locations taking up space and probably rotting away.”

Articles three and four passed unanimously, authorizing the selectboard to grant easements on a property located at 10 MacDonald Ave. The former property owners donated the parcel to the town in order for a cul-de-sac to be built; due to an oversight, the deed failed to reserve two portions of the parcel that are necessary for entry and exit, resulting in a land lock.

At the request of the selectboard, the town voted against article five, which aimed to rescind the “Fire Department Strong Chief Law” pending additional information. It is worth noting that the town terminated Fire Chief John Mitchell’s employment on July 23.

Article six also failed when the selectboard advised voters against approving its motion to eliminate the “Police Department Strong Chief Law” in favor of more discussion.

Article seven passed, allotting \$150,000 of free cash to fund tree removal.

The town’s approval of article eight will designate \$200,000 of free cash towards Highway Department paving operations.

Town Administrator Chris Martin explained the importance of the decision.

“With the state having yet to sign the Chapter 90 bond bill, the town does not wish to lose out on the current construction season and address its roads,” said Martin.

Articles nine and 10 were both approved and respectively allotted \$32,000 for the purchase of a new server for the police department and \$36,800 to fund tuition for Granby’s Smith Vocational and Agricultural School students.

A sum of \$51,345 for the purchase of a marked police cruiser was approved under Article 11, and the town’s decision to pass Article 12 enables the Highway Department to acquire a \$220,000 dump truck.

Article 13’s passing enables the town to spend \$115,000 on a new air-conditioned mower for the Public Buildings Department while Article 14’s approval allows the same department to purchase a covered transit cargo vehicle for \$52,000.

While the majority of voters agreed with the decisions to supply new equipment to the Public Buildings Department, several residents did not. Seamus Connolly took to the podium to speak against several actions.

“We really can’t be spending money like drunks at the Legion,” said Connolly. “We do not know what kind of economy we are going or what’s going to happen two or three or four years from now.”

Article 15 was passed, allotting a \$14,800 sum to fund construction at the old library building. By approving Article 16, voters enabled the town to join the Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District for

\$5,000.

“This article will allow us to have sampling and testing done in town for West Nile Virus and EEE. This was requested by the Board of Health,” said Martin. “The \$5,000 is an initial fee to join the district. After that, we will receive an [annual] assessment through our cherry sheet numbers for our share of the cost of operating the district.”

The municipal solid waste department was allotted a sum of \$470,491 when Article 17 passed unanimously, and Article 18’s approval allotted \$238,827 towards operating the sewer department.

Article 19 allotted a sum of \$386,878 for the ambulance department, but the Ambulance Director’s salary shall not exceed \$25,000 for the 2021 fiscal year.

Forty separate items were discussed under Article 20. Most notably, the 2021 School Department budget will amount to \$7,720,557 and the town’s fiscal year 2021 budget will total \$18,019,159.

Article 21 was approved, transferring \$99,200 from the Capital Equipment Needs Stabilization Fund to reduce funding from tax levy for the 2021 fiscal year appropriations, and Article 23 passed, resulting in a \$1,081,950 transfer of Free Cash to reduce funding from tax levy for fiscal year 2021 appropriations.

“This article is to subsidize the budget. We’ve projected a reduction of state aid do the Covid-19 pandemic,” said Martin, who noted that the amount would have “originally wiped out free cash completely.”

He added that there is now \$14,000 in Free Cash resulting from article two’s rejection.

### Vigil for Racial Justice

SOUTH HADLEY – All who support racial justice are invited to stand with us along College Street by the Town Common on Saturday mornings in August from 10 to 10:30 a.m. Please bring your own sign, flag, etc., wear a mask, and be prepared to stand at least six feet from anyone not in your family circle.

For more information, contact Center Church at 532-2262.

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►

Opinion

GUEST COLUMN

In My Backyard

An Oakham resident said she saw a black and white warbler for the first time. She also saw a yellow warbler. She has cedar waxwings that come for the berries on mulberry trees planted by a previous owner.

The black and white warbler is about 5 ¼ inches long. It creeps down tree trunks like a nuthatch in search of insects under the bark. The first time I saw a black and white warbler it was climbing down an oak tree in my yard. The warbler's long bill enables it to grab insects under the bark. The male has black and white striped crown as well as upper and lower parts. The female is similar, but she has a gray ear patch, white throat and grayish streaking on the underparts.

It is one of the earliest migrants in spring, showing up often before the trees have leafed out. It inhabits deciduous and mixed woodlands especially damp woodlands. Its song is a high pitched “wee-see wee-see wee-see” and its calls are a soft “tseet” and a sharp “pit.”

The female lays four to five creamy eggs, circled with brown marks in a grassy cup nest with leaves and moss. It is placed on the ground near the base of a tree or under fallen branches.

Birds at the lake

I spent the first full week of July at the family camp on Lake Winnisquam in Meredith, N.H. I saw and heard loons every day, but I did not see any chicks. A loon pair nests every year on a floating platform located in a roped off section of a cove on the west shore of the lake. I also saw one or two cormorants and a few seagulls.

One day while rowing on the lake I saw a bald eagle swoop down, grab a fish from the water and fly to one of the tall pine trees near the shore. It landed in a tree where I could not see it. A previous summer, I watched one grab a fish and land in a pine tree where I could watch it. When finished, it flew to a rocky area where it could wash its beak and talons in the water. I also saw a great blue heron flying near the water. It landed on the opposite shore.

Pileated woodpeckers

Last week, while feeding my chickens, I heard a woodpecker hammering loudly. I spotted a pileated woodpecker at the bottom of a dead hemlock. Wood chips flew as it made a hole. I got an extra treat as a second pileated woodpecker flew out of the woods and landed on the tree. It also started making a hole. I keep hoping to see one or both woodpeckers again, but so far I have not.

Ruby throated hummingbirds

I enjoy watching the hummingbirds at my two nectar feeders. I am cleaning the feeders and adding new boiled sugar and water (one to four ratio of sugar and water) every other day.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100 or emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com.

GUEST COLUMN

Cleome, a welcome volunteer

Recently, I was weeding an area of my yard that had been a fern garden. I never had such a distaste for ferns until I tried to eradicate them, mat-like roots and all. I vowed henceforth that every new sprout would be removed immediately and within a month of my initial labor, I found myself back in the same garden, yanking up all the baby ferns, crabgrass, purslane and the like. To my surprise, however, there was a friend among the foes! A cleome, sometimes known as spider flower, had seeded itself. Had the seed lay dormant for years only to

IN THE GARDEN



Roberta McQuaid

Please see **GARDEN**, page 5



A QUOTE

of NOTE

“We really can’t be spending money like drunks at the Legion. We do not know what kind of economy we are going or what’s going to happen two or three or four years from now.”

Seamus Connolly regarding articles at the Granby Annual Town Meeting in the article “Most articles approved by voters at Granby ATM.”

OPINION PAGE/ LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the Editor have a maximum of 350 words. We require writers to include their name, address and phone number in order for our office to authenticate authorship prior to publication. Addresses and phone numbers are not published.

Unsigned or anonymous letters will NOT be published.

We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions. Libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks or defamation of character are not allowed. Deadline for submissions is Wednesday at noon.

Please email (preferred) letters to townreminder@turley.com. Mailed letters can be sent to Town Reminder, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thank you for helping the girl scouts

Letter to the editor

Thank you for helping the Girl Scouts

As a volunteer for the Girl Scouts in South Hadley, it is once again with much gratitude that I reach out to thank another company for helping the Girl Scouts. TNT Expert Tree volunteered their time and equipment to remove a hazardous tree, and they donated several truckloads of wood chips and mulch to Camp Lewis Perkins. Their work in removing that tree helps make the camp a safer place for the young ladies that enjoy the experience of the camp. They not only cut down the tree, but they cut and stacked it all for firewood. The wood chips and mulch they donated has been put

in pathways to help reduce trip hazards. As a non-profit organization, the Girl Scouts are typically underfunded and understaffed to accomplish all that needs to be done. Volunteers and community partners are the backbone of keeping places like Camp Lewis Perkins in operation. It is wonderful to see another local company like TNT Expert Tree step up and make a contribution to the future and happiness of the many, many young ladies that will pass through the camp in the future.

Thank you!  
George Francis  
Volunteer Ranger,  
Camp Lewis Perkins

Don’t tell me ‘there’s no such thing as a good cop’

Letter to the editor

Don’t tell me, “There’s no such thing as a good cop.”

Recently a photo of protesters against police brutality appeared in a local paper and one of the signs carried by a participant said, “There is no such thing as a good cop.” At first, I wanted to let it pass not wanting to become involved in controversy, but another participant in the article which accompanied the photo commented, “Those who remain silent are just as guilty as those who committed and injustice.” That statement is true and is the reason for this letter.

What happened in Minneapolis was horrific and amounted to murder. To make things even worse, the individual who committed the act was a “training officer.”

What can be done about it?

Better recruitment practices along with psychological screening of police candidates would be a good start. Standard should be set for expected conduct and everyone held accountable with fair provisions making it possible to fire those who do not comply. Policies have to be reviewed periodically and make it clear to those responsible for implementing them.

Let me go back to the “no good cop.”

When I was 16, 67 years ago, our home was destroyed by a fire. The very next day

a local officer brought me to Tim Cohen’s clothing store in Holyoke and purchased new clothing for me. That act of kindness has never been forgotten and had a lot to do with my choice of a career. By the way that officer’s name was Joe Edge.

I am aware of many such incidents involving police officers over the years.

I’ve had the privilege of serving with many fine officers, male and female, black and white, at local, state and federal levels, who fulfill their duties with honor and integrity. I refuse to throw the entire police community under the bus because of the misdeeds of some, or in appeasement of the wishes of some extremists, left or right, who will never be satisfied.

At the beginning of the recent pandemic, police were regarded as heroes along with other deserving first responders like firefighters, emergency medical technicians and related medical personnel. Every day these people put their lives on the line for all of us.

I respect and believe in anyone’s right to differ or to use their constitutional right to engage in peaceful protest

Just don’t tell me, “There’s no such thing as a good cop.”

Sincerely,  
William Schenker  
Retired South Hadley Police Chief

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# 26 nonprofits receive grants in latest COVID response round of \$725K

\$5.5 million awarded to date

SPRINGFIELD - The Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts has announced new grants to 26 local nonprofits through the COVID-19 Response Fund for the Pioneer Valley totaling \$725K, targeting employment assistance, food insecurity, homelessness and foreclosure prevention, and addressing immediate needs during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Including this latest round, the Response Fund has awarded more than \$5.5 million in grants to nonprofits in Western Massachusetts that are on the front lines of serving vulnerable populations affected by the crisis. The statewide Massachusetts COVID-19 Relief Fund has provided \$4.3 million in funding to support the Community Foundation's response to the pandemic crisis in our region.

The 26 grants recipients from the COVID-19 Response Fund from the Pioneer Valley are:

- Amherst Community Connections
- Amherst Survival Center
- Brick House Community Resource Center
- Center for New Americans
- Chicopee Boys & Girls Club
- Community Upliftment Program
- Dress for Success of Western Massachusetts
- Franklin and North Quabbin Children's Advocacy Center
- Franklin County Community Meals Program
- LifePath
- Mary Lyon Education Foundation
- Mental Health Association
- Montague Catholic Social Ministries
- Pioneer Valley Project
- Pioneer Valley Workers Center
- Project New Hope
- Public Health Institute of Western MA
- Rivera and Rivera Acts Against Foreclosure

- Safe Passage
- Springfield Partners for Community Action
- St. Mary's Parish
- Sunshine Village
- United Service Organization of Pioneer Valley
- Valley Opportunity Council
- Wheelhouse Farm
- The Westfield State Founndation

The Response Fund has raised \$7.6 million from 650 donors, including foundations, businesses and individuals, and resources from the statewide Massachusetts COVID-19 Relief Fund.

The Massachusetts COVID-19 Relief Fund supports those across the state most impacted by the COVID-19 health crisis, focusing on essential frontline workers and vulnerable populations, including the homeless, immigrant populations, people with disabilities and those facing food insecurity. The Fund works in concert with regional community foundations and nonprofit leaders who partner with local leaders to understand the response and relief landscape, strategically filling in where gaps are pronounced.

According to President and CEO of the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts, Katie Allan Zobel, "The pandemic is adversely impacting individuals, families and communities in the region. This round of grants includes funds to address the economic instability that many are facing."

The COVID-19 Response Fund for the Pioneer Valley was established to provide grants to community nonprofit organizations serving the needs of the most vulnerable populations affected by the pandemic in Western Massachusetts.

The Community Foundation welcomes additional donations to the COVID-19 Response Fund for the Pioneer Valley. 100% of donations go to community needs. Gifts can be made online at: [www.communityfoundation.org](http://www.communityfoundation.org).

**GARDEN** from page 4

be exposed to the light now that the ferns were gone? One is never certain how volunteers make their way to the landscape.

Cleome was one of the flowers that my mother and I planted in the annual border along the foundation of our house; for that reason it holds a special place in my heart. As a child, I was drawn to the seed pods of this peculiar plant; if you waited until they were "just right" and gave them a squeeze, the seeds would fly everywhere. What fun! This attribute gives the plant tremendous "staying power" in the garden. In other words, it pops up everywhere the following season (and maybe seasons later?). This can be a very good thing if you enjoy having the cleome around as much as I do.

Spider flower goes by the scientific name *Cleome hasslerana*. Older cultivars such as 'Helen Campbell' and the 'Queen' series top off at an airy four or five feet tall, while the newer 'Sparkler' hybrids are a bit shorter and bushier. Besides white, spider flower comes in pink, cherry and lavender. It was given such a unique name because of the flower's long, slender stamens that remind one of spider legs protruding from the plant. The stamens hold the eventual seed pods a distance away giving them even more "popping power."

Because cleomes are flower producing power-houses, they sometimes become exhausted by midsummer; their lower leaves yellow and flowers start to fade. I always thought that if they were dead-headed like other, more common annuals were, maybe

they would last longer into the season. So, as an experiment I clipped the seed-pods close to the plant as soon as they began to form. Unfortunately the overall form of the plant was altered, not for the better, and with little reward for my work. Then I began to search out what exactly cleomes need in order to thrive with the idea if perhaps I met those requirements I'd have better luck.

I had always known that cleomes prefer full sun and well-drained soil. What I didn't know was that they also like fertile soil and space away from one another. In other words, three per 18" container will not work and regular doses of liquid feed are a must.

In the north, the cleome's habit of self-sowing doesn't become annoying, but in warmer areas it can become weedy. Clipping the seed-pods as mentioned above would "nip this problem in the bud." Seedlings that develop from volunteers will likely be a blend color-wise of the plants you grew last year because they are cross-pollinated by insects. Only time will tell what color my cleome flower will be. I can't wait to see it and have it drop all of its wonderful seeds just in time for next year's garden.

*Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.*

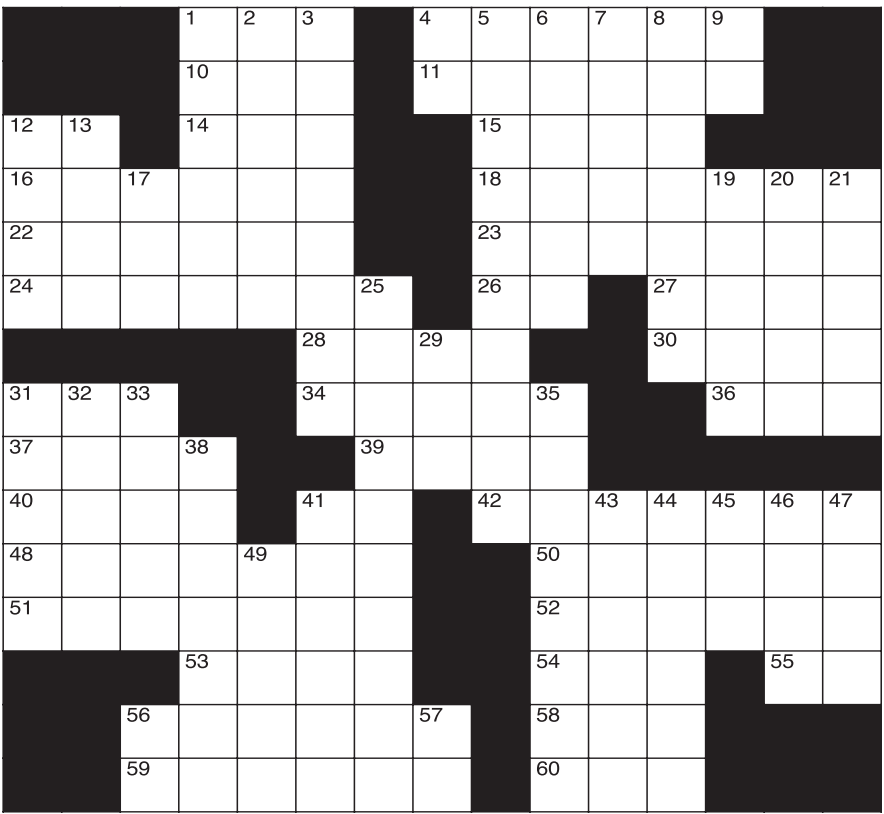
## Faces & Places

### Traveling with the Town Reminder



Courtesy photo

The Brown family of South Hadley had the Town Reminder on hand in the Redwood Forest National Park in California, their RV wouldn't fit through this the drive through tree.



- CLUES ACROSS**

  - 1. Central processing unit
  - 4. Military action
  - 10. How electricity gets to train carriages (abbr.)
  - 11. Unsafe
  - 12. Of (French)
  - 14. Autonomic nervous system
  - 15. Type of bean
  - 16. Accuse formally of a crime
  - 18. Promote
  - 22. Type of lava
  - 23. Meat from a deer
  - 24. Herbaceous plants
  - 26. Potato state
  - 27. Helsinki neighborhood
  - 28. Sports officials
  - 30. Shout wildly
- 31. Reptile genus
  - 34. Frocks
  - 36. Born of
  - 37. N. Scandinavian indigenous people
  - 39. Poultry cage
  - 40. Aquatic insect genus
  - 41. Of I
  - 42. Ad \_\_: tirelessly repetitive
  - 48. Item
  - 50. Produce
  - 51. Seedless raisin
  - 52. Bond in a third party's control
  - 53. Legendary character \_\_ Finn
  - 54. Space station
  - 55. Note at the end of a letter
  - 56. In a way, contradicted
- 58. Midway between northeast and east
  - 59. Bears important traffic
  - 60. Brooklyn hoopster
- CLUES DOWN**

  - 1. Presides
  - 2. Artist's tool
  - 3. On a higher floor
  - 4. Commercial
  - 5. Something to watch
  - 6. Chased
  - 7. Commercial producers
  - 8. Keyboard instrument
  - 9. Blue grass state
  - 12. Phonograph recording
  - 13. Unusual
  - 17. Popular average
  - 19. A native or inhabitant of Asia
  - 20. N. Sweden river
  - 21. Related on the mother's side
  - 25. Mediator
  - 29. Partner of to
  - 31. Arm bones
  - 32. Korean seafood dish
  - 33. Tap of the foot
  - 35. Astronauts
  - 38. Carolina footballer
  - 41. Indiana city
  - 43. Of or relating to bears
  - 44. Not widely known
  - 45. Body part
  - 46. At the peak
  - 47. High-pitched cries of a cat
  - 49. A way to intimidate
  - 56. Prosecutor
  - 57. Atomic #66

ANSWERS ON PAGE 11

Have Something to Share?  
Send your stories and photos to [townreminder@turey.com](mailto:townreminder@turey.com)



# In the Classroom

## Living through history

Local elementary students share their thoughts on COVID-19

SOUTH HADLEY – Much like the rest of the world, children have gone through the pandemic and are experiencing history being made from their homes.

Third graders from Mosier Elementary School were tasked with a writing assignment about their thoughts and feelings surrounding COVID-19, according to teacher Allyson Saul.

This poem could be in any form the students wished and submissions included haiku, acrostic, shape, free verse and rhyming poems. The assignment was created by Leah McCarthy.

By Gabe DeValle

Life is different,  
Life has changed,  
You can't go outside,  
Life is rearranged.

People are lonely,  
People are scared,  
Virus affects everyone,  
No one is spared.

I miss my friends,  
I miss my school,  
But we need to distance,  
That's the new rule.

We will get through this,  
We are strong,  
Life will get back to normal,  
This is not lifelong.

By Eliyanah Chambers

### The Corona Virus of 2020

My last day of school was  
March 13,2020

I had to leave my friends  
from school.

I had to start to do things  
differently and it wasn't fun.

We had to social distance and wore  
a mask when we went shopping  
and when I was with my  
neighbor friend.

Because of the Coronavirus, my fam-  
ily and I couldn't eat in  
the restaurants, but we could go  
through the drive through.

One of the good things that  
happened during the

Coronavirus was that I got a  
puppy named Ruby to  
keep me company.

By Quincy Anderson

### COVID-19 Poem

The virus is not good, the virus  
kills people.

The virus takes away your family  
and it takes your school/friends.

The virus makes me very sad/  
mad. It takes your hugs from  
grandma/grandpa.

I want ti go to grandma and  
grandpa's house so I can see  
Mason.

I don't like the covid-virus.

By Jack Gates

Things we did while staying home  
during the coronavirus

Baking

Playing on the Wii

Youtube on the laptop

Launching our stomp rocket  
(Until it got stuck in the tree)

Playing with Pepper

Building a fort outside

Taking lots of walks all  
over the place

Putting things in our  
vacuum chamber

Playing with our trucks and toys

Digging a sunflower garden

Planting a rooftop garden

Playing with the hose

Splashing in the rain

Making oobleck

By Gavin Markham

Causes people to get sick

Outbreak of cases

Remain home

Outside there are germs

No more going to school

A time to be at home family

## COLLEGE NOTES

### Local students on Spring Semester 2020 President's List at Western New England University

SPRINGFIELD – Western New England University congratulates more than 700 students named to the Spring Semester 2020 President's List.

The following students are named to the President's List for achieving a semester grade point average of 3.80 or higher.

Matthew Buxton, of Granby, is pursuing a BSE in Mechanical Engineering.

Pierre Carriere, of Granby, is pursuing a BSE in Civil Engineering.

Jonathan Couture, of Granby, is pursuing a BSE in Civil Engineering.

Morgan Lukasik, of Granby, is graduating with a BA in Psychology.

Jasmine Rodrigues-Jones, of Granby, is exploring majors in Engineering.

Jeffrey Zebrowski, of South Hadley, is graduating with a BSBA in Accounting.

Having just celebrated its Centennial, Western New England University is a private, independent, coeducational institution. Located on an attractive 215-acre suburban campus in Springfield, Massachusetts, Western New England serves 3,825 students, including 2,580 full-time undergraduate students. Undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs are offered through Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and the School of Law.

### UMass Lowell names local students to Dean's List

LOWELL – Local residents have been named to the dean's list at the University of Massachusetts Lowell. Among those recognized for achieving academic distinction for the spring

2020 semester at UMass Lowell are:

\* Bailey Powers of Granby, majoring in civil engineering

\* Justin Yeung of South Hadley, majoring in history

\* Romer Sullivan of South Hadley, majoring in mechanical engineerin

\* Connie Couture of South Hadley, majoring in public health

UMass Lowell is a national research university located on a high-energy campus in the heart of a global community. The university offers its more than 18,000 students bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in business, education, engineering, fine arts, health, humanities, sciences and social sciences. UMass Lowell deliv-

ers high-quality educational programs, vigorous hands-on learning and personal attention from leading faculty and staff, all of which prepare graduates to be leaders in their communities and around the globe. [www.uml.edu](http://www.uml.edu)

### Local students named to Bryant University Deans' List

SMITHFIELD, RI – Bryant University is dedicated to the pursuit, recognition, and celebration of academic excellence. The University is pleased to recognize the students who have been named to the Deans' List for the spring 2020 semester.

Congratulations on this outstanding achievement!

Angela LeBel, class of 2022, from South Hadley.

Kathryn Meon, class of 2020, from South Hadley.

Bailey Ortensi, class of 2020, from Granby.

William Schenker, class of 2020, from South Hadley.

### Caroline Rose Gurek Named to Sewanee Dean's List

SEWANEE, TN- Caroline Rose Gurek, of South Hadley, has been named to the Dean's List at the University of the South for the Spring 2020 term. To earn a place on Sewanee's Dean's List, a student must earn a minimum grade point average of 3.625 on a 4.0 scale. Caroline Rose Gurek is the daughter of Shannon & Dale L. Gurek. The University of the South, familiarly known as Sewanee, is an independent liberal arts college located on 13,000 acres atop Tennessee's Cumberland Plateau between Nashville and Chattanooga. It has been consistently ranked among the top tier of national liberal arts colleges.

### Jillian Coelho named to UA Dean's List

TUSCALOOSA, AL – Jillian Coelho, of Granby, was named to The University of Alabama Deans List for spring 2020.

A total of 16,470 students enrolled during the 2020 spring term at UA were named to the Dean's List with an academic record of 3.5 or above or the President's List with an academic record of 4.0 (all A's).

The UA Dean's and President's lists recognize full-time undergraduate students. The lists do not apply to graduate students or to undergraduate students who take less than a full course load.

New office hours:

Mon. 9-4  
Tues. & Wed. 9-5  
**THURS. 10-6**  
Fri. 9-4



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GRANBY ATM from page 1

stating that “this is clearly not the mower that is needed.”

Libera urged the Public Buildings Department to go back and study “what an appropriate mower would be for the uses that we have.”

Facilities Supervisor, Jeremy Carriere, took to the microphone to justify the request.

“This is the best time for us to purchase this mower. There’s no better time as we’ve already indepthly studied what we need and require to do the job properly at each of our facilities,” said Carriere. “We are not getting the Cadillac of all of the mowers.”

The cost of the mower is \$144,439, but state discounts enable the department to purchase it for \$115,000. Carriere explained that the town’s large properties re-

quire equipment to be easily mobile.

“With all those large properties, we want to make sure that we can maintain them. The current mower is 14 feet. We’re going two feet wider because the grand we are looking for doesn’t come in 14 feet,” he said.

The department’s current mower is an eight-year-old Jacobsen, whose air condition and cab are non-functional. The lack of air conditioning can become dangerous during the dog days of summer.

“We are looking for something that somebody can mow for a continuous eight-hour shift and not be fatigued,” said Carriere. “Fatigue will cause a person to have lack of judgment and vision issues so we’re looking for something that can safely mow and not hit into things, which would cause more damage and more costs to the town.”

The department researched the market

for used vehicles with MTE and turf products before deciding that a new mower would be most cost efficient. Carriere noted that prices on most mowers have not increased in the past two years, making now the ideal time to strike.

Highway Superintendent Dave Desrosiers supported the request. He stated that the Finance Committee’s “lack of understanding of the current regulations” clouded their perception of the item.

“The new regulations put in place a year ago put us on notice that we have to protect our employees from hazards such as silica dust, which is sand,” said Desrosiers. “There’s almost no vehicle that comes through now-a-days without air conditioning. It’s not a luxury; it’s a necessity to protect against lawsuits.”

Libera reaffirmed the Finance Committee’s stance. He repeated the reasoning behind its decision to urge voters to postpone the item.

“This is a lot of money for this time. Any of you who own businesses know that it’s pretty easy to put together a group of people to construct exactly what it is you want and justify it,” said Libera, emphasizing the need for a team of investigators independent of the town. “We believe that is certainly what happened; we believe that they did a lot of work looking at this, but the bottom line is that \$115,000 just eight years after we spent \$54,000 does not seem appropriate for now.”

Ultimately, voters failed to heed the Finance Committee’s recommendation.

The vast majority of those in attendance were in favor of purchasing the new mower, which will soon call Granby home.

*Dalton Zbierski is a Staff Writer and can be reached at [dzbierski@turley.com](mailto:dzbierski@turley.com).*



Town officials pledge allegiance to the flag prior to last Saturday’s Annual Town Meeting in Granby.



The tent outside of the Granby Junior/Senior High School was packed near capacity on the morning of July 25.

SHELD from page 1

Shifting focus to SHELD’s FiberSonic municipal internet service, Fitzgerald reported that there had been no outages in the month of July as of last Thursday. Fitzgerald credits the accomplishment to “strand methodology” that “maintains the fiber” and is difficult to knock out of service.

As the months go on, SHELD’s FiberSonic service continues to progress. Fitzgerald was pleased to report its growth to the Board of Commissioners.

“We’ve reached a milestone and have completed our first full year of construction. We began a year ago in early July, and it’s resulted in 340 active customers, which is significant, and we have many more in the queue,” said Fitzgerald.

SHELD has scheduled FiberSonic installations all the way through September and. Fitzgerald added that multiple appointments are scheduled for every business day and some Saturdays for the next two months.

The department is also making progress on its endeavor to improve its location on College Street. and bring a small facility to the parking lot of Plains Elementary School on Granby Road.

“In an ideal world, we’d be done before the end of this year. I don’t know how realistic that is, but I think realistically within the next 10 to 12 months that this will be completed,” said Fitzgerald.

“We put in our bid that it has to be underneath a year. I think that once the right vendor is chosen, it can move pretty swiftly because the engineer has been done and all the planning is really comprehensive. Diagrams are drawn; they just have to execute the plans,” he continued.

Finally, regarding the department’s COVID-19 safety protocols, much remains the same. The office on Canal St. remains closed to the public, but operations are continuing to flow smoothly nonetheless.

“We’ve had high satisfaction scores, and customers get really good service. If there are any problems, our crews go right out and solve them,” said Fitzgerald. “We’ve been able to be successful and haven’t had any interruptions to customer service requests. They’re still happening efficiently, and we’re operating as we normally would.”

SEEDS from page 1

and will test their contents and determine if they contain anything that could be of concern to U.S. agriculture or the environment.

Massachusetts residents that received an unsolicited package of seeds should immediately contact the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources at: [taryn.lascola@mass.gov](mailto:taryn.lascola@mass.gov).

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# SPORTS

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## Fall high school sports delayed through September

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
[gscibelli@turley.com](mailto:gscibelli@turley.com)

REGION – In what is a very ominous sign for the future of high school sports in the 2020-2021 school year, the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association has postponed the beginning of fall sports to the middle of September.

Last Tuesday, a virtual meeting of the MIAA Board of Directors took place, with a unanimous vote in favor of moving the state date of fall sports to Sept. 14. This means actual con-

tests may not be played until the end of September. This could result in almost only a half season of action in fall sports, and some sports could still be cancelled altogether.

The state and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is planning to issue additional guidance in the coming month which could change how the MIAA approaches fall sports.

Currently, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is in Phase 3 of its re-opening plan, but Phase 3 is to remain stalled

until either an impactful treatment or a vaccine for COVID-19 is developed and available for the public at large, allowing life to seemingly return to normal.

In Phase 3, Gov. Charlie Baker and his administration have labeled soccer, football, and basketball as sports that are “high-risk” and involve too much close contact. Effectively, while practices can occur, all contests of those three sports are banned currently. The guidance specifically bans the sports at the recreational and “amateur” level, but does not specifically ban

them at the high school level.

Part of the rationale in delaying the start of fall sports is for the DESE to wrap its head around the actual opening of school, and to determine whether or not learning will take place online, in-school, or hybrid of the two. Once that is determined, the MIAA will have to figure out how athletic practices and contests will work in a situation like that, including determining eligibility for students “attending school” and dealing with transportation.

The MIAA has a COVID-19

Task Force that is working with the state government and collecting guidance and information regularly. It was the task force that made the Sept. 14 recommendation to the MIAA BOD.

The season was originally supposed to start on Aug. 21.

Other concepts that have been explored was the possibility of playing baseball and softball in fall season and moving soccer and football to spring.

Please see **FALL SPORTS**  
page 11



Baseball has continued this summer as high-school-age players have formed their own junior and senior “Legion” teams.



An Agawam player makes a backhand play at shortstop.



Baseball was played in Monson, Greenfield, and other locations on a bright Sunday afternoon.



Baseball action will continue through August in the high school league.



A Monson-Palmer player makes a throw back to the infield.



Umpires continue to work from behind the mound calling balls and strikes.

## Fellows picks up another win at Monadnock



Aaron Fellows was a winner in the late-model sportsman race.

WINCHESTER, N.H. – Modified ace Ben Byrne earned his second victory lap of the summer Saturday, July 25, topping the 40-lap main event on the high banks of Monadnock Speedway.

Aaron Fellows stayed undefeated this season, winning a thriller in the Late Model Sportsmen, while the Curtis twins, Chase and Jaret, finished one-two in the Street Stocks to increase their standings atop the points parade.

Gordon Farnum topped the Mini Stocks for the third time this summer, and Pure Stock kingpin Chris Davis put a string of recent misfortunes behind him, romping to victory Friday. Short track legend Randy Cabral won the 30-lap NEMA Midget feature, with Avery Stohr victorious in the NEMA Lites.

Defending Sportsman

Modified champion Todd Patnode and Keith Carzello led the 18-car NHSTRA field to the green, with Patnode – fresh off nightmare outings in each of the previous two weeks – set on reversing his fortunes.

To that end, the Swanzey hot shoe set a torrid pace for the first 13 go-rounds. Brian Chapin took the lead on lap 14 and, the next time around, Patnode pitted under green, moving Byrne up to second, with points leader and previous week's winner Brian Robie in close tow.

Byrne was relentless over the next 18 circuits, finally taking the lead from the top lane on lap 32, with Chapin then bobbling on a restart to move Robie up to second, from where he would add to his points lead.

Please see **RACING**,  
page 11



Ben Byrne was a winner again in the sportsman modified race.



# South Hadley Senior Center update and virtual programming

SOUTH HADLEY – The Holyoke YMCA is generously inviting you to join in on Zoom Fitness Classes with Davi free of charge Monday, Wednesday and Fridays at 9 a.m.

Unless noted, all remote activities are via Zoom. Remote Activities:

**Monday Aug. 3**

9 to 10 a.m. Zoom or Phone-In Group, Bring Your Own Coffee Hour with Brenda

9 to 9:45 a.m. – Gentle Yoga with the Holyoke YMCA's Davi

10 to 11 a.m.– Tai Chi with Denise. (\$2.00 per class suggested donation: You can send your check made out to South Hadley COA monthly)

**Tuesday Aug. 4**

9 to 9:45 a.m. – Mindfulness Practices with Kerry

10:30 to 11 a.m. – Fitness Basics/All Levels with Lindsey

1 to 2 p.m. – The New Normal: Conversations with Karen Buscemi, PMH-NP

2 to 3 p.m. – Social Singalong for Every Voice with Kerry

**Wednesday, Aug. 5**

9 to 9:30 a.m. – Active Older Adult (AOA) with the Holyoke YMCA's Davi

9:30 to 11 a.m. – Creative Collage with Linda

11 a.m. to 12 p.m. - How to Use Zoom Features with Kerry (limit of five people per session.)

1 to 2 p.m. – Reminiscing with Brenda Zoom or Phone-In Group

**Thursday, Aug. 6**

Twice a month) 9:15 to 10 a.m. - Game Day with Brenda on Zoom or Phone-In Group. This week: Old Wives Tales: True or False

10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Watercolors with Tina

Thursday 10:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. – Seated and Standing Yoga with Elizabeth. The first class free. (Cost is \$3 per class. You pay Elizabeth directly, monthly. She will tell you how to pay in class.)

10:30 to 11 a.m. – Fitness Basics/All Levels with Lindsey

1 to 2 p.m. – The New Normal: Conversations Karen Buscemi, PMH-NP. Phone-In Group (Eight Person Limit: call 538-5042 to register)

**Friday, Aug. 7**

9 to 9:30 a.m. – Active Older Adult (AOA) with the Holyoke YMCA's Davi

**To register for Zoom virtual activities**

All remote activities are held via Zoom. Please email Program Coordinator, Kerry Ouimette, at KOuimette@

SouthHadleyMA.gov by the day before the activity you would like to participate in. You will be sent a link via email to join in on the Zoom fun at least an hour before your activity begins.

Nervous or unsure about how to use Zoom? It's okay! There is a learning curve for everyone. Kerry will send you a link to a youtube video on how to use Zoom when you send her your email.

**Remote and in-person support**

Second Tuesday of month from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Low Vision Group, phone-in group – call Ann for more information at 538-5042. First and third Thursday of month 10 to 11 a.m. – Alzheimer's Caregiver Mutual Support Group Zoom or Phone-In Group

Thursday Mornings 9 to 12 p.m. – S.H.I.N.E. Counseling by phone Please call the COA at 538-5042 to schedule a phone appointment with Eileen.

**House calls by appointment**

Foot Nurse Home Visits – Registered Nurse, Sharon Beaulieu, is a certified foot care specialist making house calls. Sharon wears a mask and gloves. Call 413 552-9533 for an appointment.

**Brown Bag**

The brown bag food for seniors program provides a free bag of healthy groceries to eligible seniors once a month.

The Brown Bag program is for people over the age of 55 who meet certain income guidelines, or those under the age of 55 who have a documented disability and are currently receiving SSDI. The Brown Bag program is fully funded by The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts. The Senior Center Brown Bag event is held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month with pick up available from 10 to 11 a.m.

The bags often contain low sodium soup, vegetables, spaghetti sauce, canned tuna or chicken, rice, pasta, yogurt, cereal and shelf milk. Fresh fruits and vegetables are occasionally available.

For additional information on how to apply for the Brown Bag, please call 538.5042 and ask to speak to Ann or email aandras@southhadleyma.gov

The following are the income requirements for numbers of household members.

# of Household Members	Monthly Income
One person	\$1,926
Two people	\$2,607
Three people	\$3,289

Public Safety

## SOUTH HADLEY POLICE LOG

**Compiled by Melina Bourdeau**  
*Staff writer*

*Editor's note:* The following are brief explanations of select entries in the South Hadley Police log and arrests for the week of June 13 to July 19. The information was provided by Chief Jennifer Gundersen based on review of the detailed log summary. This feature is designed to provide context and explanation to some of the calls police respond to every day. Mass General Law prohibits the release of names of those arrested for domestic incidents.

**Monday, July 13**

1:06 p.m. – A person was charged with a subsequent offense of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle. While on patrol, an officer ran a person's registration as they drove through the Lathrop Street and West Summit Street intersection. The officer stopped the vehicle and operator was identified and it was found they were driving on a suspended license. They were issued a summons into court.

10 a.m. – The owner of a business on New Ludlow Road reported they found a registration plate which must have fallen off a vehicle at business. There is no further information at this time.

7:49 p.m. – A bicycle was brought to the police station after being found at a local park. Officers checked the serial number and found it did not indicate the bike was stolen.

**Tuesday July 14**

1:32 a.m.– An officer was on patrol when they noticed a vehicle travelling north on Granby Road, after doing a compliance check on the vehicle, it was found the owner had a suspended license. The officer stopped the vehicle, identified the owner of the car and issued a summons into court on charges of operating a vehicle with a suspended license.

6:31 a.m. – Officers responded to a one-car accident on Bolton Street. Upon arrival, the officer saw it the vehicle off on the side of road with heavy damage to the front. It was reported the vehicle struck rocks on side of the road. No citation was issued. It was found that the driver failed to negotiate the curve.

12:05 p.m. – A Spring Street resident reported packages she received were not there when she got home. There is no further information at this time.

5:04 p.m. – Officers responded to Lawler Drive after a report of a car fire in the parking lot. Upon arrival South Hadley Fire District One had extinguished

the fire. The fire appeared to be the result of a mechanical error. The person reported the fire started after they had parked and gone into one business.

11:32 p.m. – A person was issued a summons for unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle. Officers responded to Abbey Lane for a report of stolen motor vehicle. A description was given of the vehicle and while in route to the address, the officer noticed the vehicle on Ludlow Road. The officers stopped the vehicle and identified the operator. It was determined the driver did not have a license and will be summons to court. There were no other charges issued.

**Wednesday, July 15**

9:51 a.m. – Officers took a report of a puppy sale internet scam. A resident of Lombard Street reported they fell victim to a scam where they believed they were purchasing a puppy online. The resident sent the person money and never got the puppy.

**Thursday July 16**

2:13 p.m. – Officers responded to a dispute between a clerk and a customer at a Stop and Go. Peace was restored.

5:23 p.m. – Officers took a report of potential identity fraud. A Pleasant Street resident reported they that received a no-

tice in mail that someone tried to open a credit account in their name. The account was denied. Officers report they don't believe there was a loss at this time.

**Friday, July 15**

2:22 a.m. – Officers responded to a report of a two-car accident when a vehicle hit a parked car on South Street. It was found the operator was backing out of a driveway and hit a parked car in the driveway.

3:41 p.m. – Officers took a report of a dispute between two juveniles over malicious damage to a bike. The matter will be resolved among the parties.

**Sunday, July 17**

1:19 p.m. – Officers took a report of malicious damage to motor vehicle on Amherst Road. The resident reported their vehicle was egged. Officers are unable to identify the perpetrator. No other information is available at this time.

9:51 p.m. – Officers took a report of annoying phone calls. The caller reported an attempted scam on the employees at McCray's country creamery. The employee filed report stating a person called the business wanted to confirm a delivery of parcel but would need a series of payments before they make the delivery.

Public Notices

**Town of Granby Massachusetts Conservation Commission**

The Granby Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearings pursuant to the Wetland Protection Act (MGL Chapter 131, Section 40) on Tuesday **August 11, 2020 7:30 @\*1 Library Lane-Old Carnegie Library-Top Floor-B West State Street**, to consider the following:

At 7:30 **"NOI"**

- 1. Filed by John and Jo-Ann Giroux for proposed construction of Garage on grass area with regards to property located on 310 Taylor Street and known as Map 6-A-8 in the Town of Granby.**
  - 2. Filed by Timothy Healy Associates General Contractors, owners Brian & Jennifer King for proposed construction of a driveway, single-family dwelling and septic system with regards to property located on Amherst Road and known as Map 2-B-3.2 in the Town of Granby.**
- \*This meeting may have to be held in a remote session. Please go <https://www.granby-ma.gov/conservation-commission/agenda/conservation-commission-17> 48 hours before the meeting to check on the status of the meeting in case you need a phone # and password to join this

hearing/meeting.

Anyone interested, and wishing to be heard, should appear at the time and place designated. The complete materials (including text and maps) relative to this "NOI" are available for inspection during regular business hours at Granby Town Hall.

**Edward Chapdelaine**  
Vice Chair  
Granby Conservation Commission

07/31/2020

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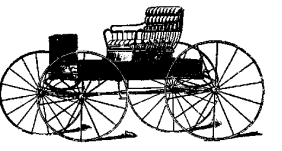
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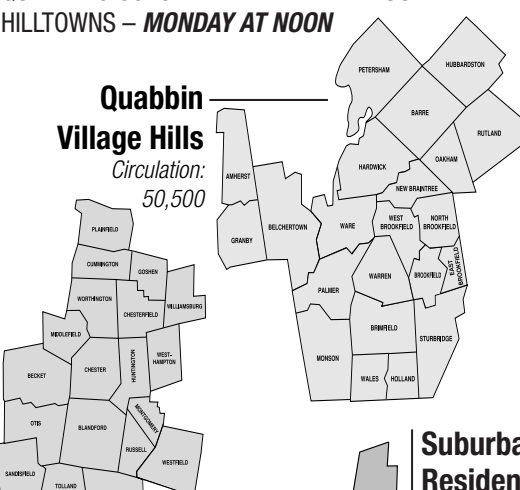
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## FALL SPORTS from page 8

The idea was turned down in the early stages out of risk that a baseball or softball player could “lose two seasons.”

The board also unanimously passed a recommendation to suspend the end-of-game handshakes until further notice to reduce contact between teams.

Currently, only high school-age baseball and some softball tournaments are being played in Massachusetts with sanitization and social distancing being adhered to.

Among sports that could be played in the fall currently are volleyball, cross country, field hockey, and golf. It is not yet known if high school students will be allowed to play football or soccer this fall.

## RACING from page 8

earning valuable breathing room ahead of Trevor Bleau, who finished 15th on the night.

A week earlier, Aaron Fellows kept his undefeated season intact by passing Cole Littlewood with only two laps to go en route to Late Model Sportsman victory lane. Friday, he again passed Littlewood late in the game, this time on turn three of the final lap to add more luster to his unblemished record.

Littlewood, third a week earlier, held on for second Friday, with Robert Hagar coming home third. Willie Kuhn and Justin Littlewood completed the top five.

Hillary Renaud, gunning for two in a row in the sizzling Streets, led the first 14 circuits of her 25-lapper but then blinked, quickly finding herself back in forth as the flying Curtis twins, Chase and Jaret, stormed past, bringing Tommy O’Sullivan with them.

It was Chase Curtis first

under the checkers, with his points-leading sibling Jaret riding in his shadow. Renaud’s fourth-place run moved her up to fifth in points. Friday’s victory was Chase Curtis’s second of the summer, with both his father Chris and brother Jaret also having topped Street Stock features.

It took Gordon Farnum eight laps to come from row three to the point in the Mini Stock feature but, once there, he checked out on the field to score his third win of the summer. Kevin Clayton, strong all night, came home second, just ahead of Mark Panaroni.

Pure Stock powerhouse Chris Davis shook the late-race bugaboos that had plagued him in recent weeks Friday, taking control on lap two and then checking out. While Davis made it look easy, a tight battle raged behind him, with Mike Douglas emerging strong to cop the runner-up honors, just in front of Clare-

mont regular Dylan Adams, who made his high-banks debut successful in third.

In the night’s Iron Mike Memorial NEMA Midget main event, open-wheel legend Randy Cabral did what he’s done at least once over the last 20 years. Cabral blasted to victory in the caution-free 30-lapper, taking the checkers ahead of Todd Bertrand and early-race leader Paul Scally. Avery Stohr topped the Lites 30-lapper.

Next Saturday, August 1, the Granite State Pro Stock Series will return to the Winchester high banks, where they’ll battle in a 100-lap main event. For more information, please visit [www.monadnockspeedway.com](http://www.monadnockspeedway.com).

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**PURE STOCK:** Chris Davis, Mike Douglas, Dylan Adams, Brandon Lavoie, Nick Houle, Doug Nelson, Cory Lofland, J.D. Stockwell, Reagan Buffum, Jimmy Zellman.

**MINI STOCK:** Gordon Farnum, Kevin Clayton, Mark Panaroni, Nathan Wenzel, Bill Chaffee, Kevin McKnight, Jake Puchalski, Jared Roy, Jeff Asselin.

**STREET STOCK:** Chase Curtis, Jaret Curtis, Tommy O’Sullivan, Hillary Renaud, Mike Hopkins, Chris Buffone, Mike Radzuik, Kyle Gero, Paul Barnard, Tim Wenzel.

**LATE MODEL SPORTSMAN:** Aaron Fellows, Cole Littlewood, Robert Hagar, Willie Kuhn, Justin Littlewood, Ron Laperche, James Beck, Nancy Muni Ruot, Billy McCarthy, Camdyn Curtis.

**NEMA MIDGETS (Top 3):** Randy Cabral, Todd Bertrand, Paul Scally.

**NEMA LITES (Top 3):** Avery Stohr, Ryan Locke, P.J. Stergios.

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# Danger returns

Doug “Danger” Senecal stops at Steaming Tender

By Dalton Zbierski  
Staff Writer

PALMER – Doug “Danger” Senecal, the pride of Palmer and one of the great stuntmen of his generation, made his homecoming on July 24 during a book signing at the Steaming Tender Restaurant. The 58-year-old daredevil has performed all over the world but relished the opportunity to return to his humble beginnings.

“We’re kicking off the book signing tour, and where else can you do it but your hometown,” said Senecal, promoting his book “Doug Danger, Dare to Dream: From Tragedy to Triumph.”

Senecal is a world record holding motorcycle jumper who first entered the Guinness Book of World Records in 1991. Over the course of his career, he’s jumped over school buses, tractor-trailer trucks and jumbo jet from wingtip to wingtip.

His trials and tribulations have been well-publicized. As a stuntman, Senecal has broken approximately 50 bones; one incident landed him in a coma for more than a month.

Last Friday, he reminisced on his incredible journey, crediting the people of Palmer for their longstanding belief in him.

“The greatest people come from somewhere. All I can say is that the people in the town of Palmer inspired me to chase my dreams,” said Senecal. “I had a great past, and this town was the absolute greatest to grow up in. We had great people, great teachers, great police officers; this is

just such a beautiful place.” Senecal fondly recalled riding through sand pits and wooded trails. Palmer was home to his first stunts – including one he performed inside of Palmer High School during his sophomore year is still remembered more than 40 years later.

On the last day of school, Senecal said he rode his motorbike through the halls of the high school. That said, the act that led to his dismissal and eventual enrollment at Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School almost never occurred.

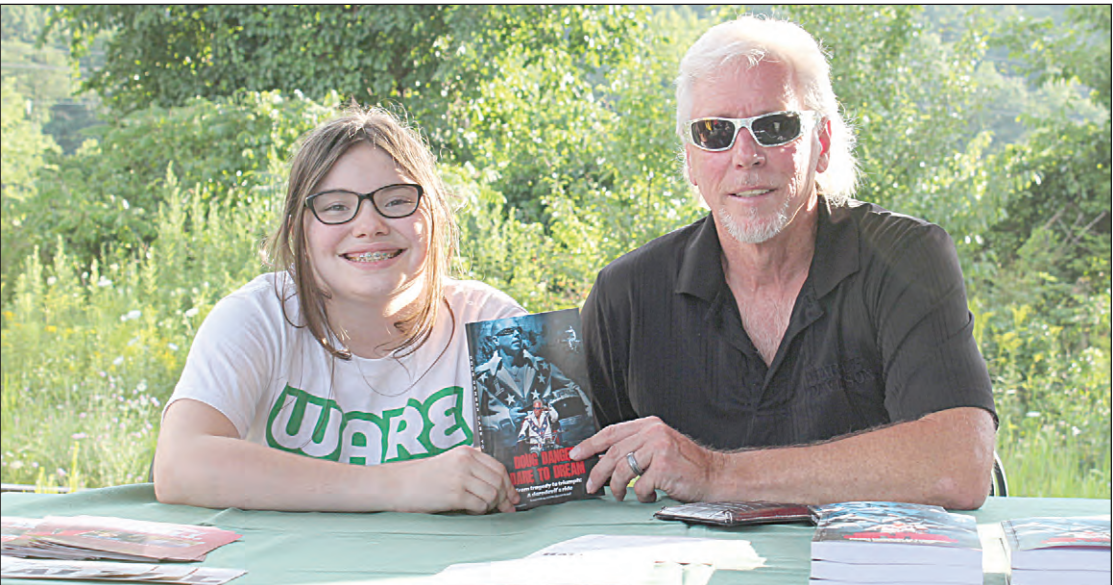
“We had talked about doing it for a while, and it started circulating around the school. I started thinking ‘This is way too big; I’m going to get in trouble,’” said Senecal. “I was going to back off, and then two guys from the football team who played the offensive line came up to me and said, ‘What time you are going?’ I told them I thought about it and wasn’t going to do it. They said, ‘Oh, we got money on you; you’re going. What time?’ They held the doors open for me, and the rest is history.”

Senecal launched his stunt career in 1979, jumping over 10 cars in Palmer. From there, he never looked back.

Senecal earned his first world record in 1985 after completing a jump over 14 school buses. In 1991, he entered the Guinness Book of World Records by jumping 251 feet over 42 cars.

Spread between his many successes, however, are numerous failures; several of which nearly cost Senecal his life.

While Senecal had experienced numerous bone-breaking crashes, during one of which he caught on fire, Senecal is sure that he cheated death on a sum-



Photos by Dalton Zbierski

Stuntman Doug Danger poses with 12-year-old fan and family member Kaylyn Hall during an appearance at the Steaming Tender Restaurant in Palmer on July 24.



Dozens of fans came out to the Steaming Tender Restaurant last Friday to interact with successful stuntman and Palmer product Doug Danger.

mer afternoon in 1992.

During a July practice jump at Hudson Speedway in New Hampshire, Senecal slammed head-first into a three-foot concrete retaining wall, suffering brain damage, prolonged amnesia and 17 broken bones. When it was widely assumed that Senecal’s career was over, the stunt-

man instead made his greatest leap.

“When I missed that jump at Hudson Speedway and hit that cement wall, I was very slow after because I had brain damage; people treated me very differently,” he said. “I didn’t like being treated that way. My brother sent me video of the crash and other jumps I had, and I was like, ‘That’s who I was? I want to be that guy again. If I did before, I had to be able to do it again.’”

Senecal returned to the ramp to become more committed than ever to land an extreme jump. He built back his confidence and skill before successfully leaping over 18 tractor-trailer trucks in Las Vegas in 1999.

Several years later, Senecal returned to the scene of his 1992 New Hampshire incident to conquer the same

jump that had nearly doomed him. He described what propelled him to one of his greatest accomplishments.

“After that crash, when I came to, I had no memory of anything in my past, but I wanted to come back and redo the jump,” said Senecal. “The night that I booked it, I was laying there in bed. I saw the whole jump; it came to me. I saw that the ramps weren’t quite set right. When I landed, I went straight up into the wall. Just before I hit the wall, I woke right up; sweat pouring off me and everything else. But I learned what I did wrong. I went back and redid it. It was like, ‘You beat me last time, but I got you this time.’”

Senecal recaptured his past glory in the early 2000’s, completing a variety of jumps on tours that took him to countries across the globe.

In 2012, he conquered a new opponent, defeating stage four cancer. Senecal returned to jumping soon after and explained the philosophy that has enabled him to overcome adversity time and time again.

“You have to look at every failure as a learning experience. Learn from it and don’t ever do it again. As long as you do that and keep your chin up and keep going forward, you’re going to get where you want to be,” he said.

Today, Danger lives in Florida and continues to perform, jumping vehicles that range from motorbikes to monster trucks. “Doug Danger Dare to Dream: From Tragedy to Triumph,” is a newly-released biographical work written by Senecal’s cousin, Steven Hall.

The publication is available on numerous platforms, including Amazon.

Dalton Zbierski is a Staff Writer and can be reached at dzbierski@turley.com.



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